

Flathead County Fair Commission
July 9, 2009

The Flathead County Fair Commission met in session July 9, 2009. Members present were Vice Chairman Terry Fodbery, Commission members Susan Munsinger, Paul Atkinson, Ted Dykstra and Fairgrounds Manager Jay Scott.

Guests present were Jim and Connie Brown with the Nutt Hut and Ronnie Thierbert with the Turf Club.

Vice Chairman Fosbery called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Minutes from the June meeting were discussed.

Munsinger moved to approve the minutes as read Atkinson seconded the motion.

Public Comment:

None at this time

Guests:

Jim and Connie Brown would like to be part of this year fair. They have a business that sells roasted nuts; they have been in business for eight years. The Nutt Hut is in a trailer that is self-contained; they need a spot 20X20.

Fosbery explained the non-profit and the, for profits that work the fair. This booth would fit in the, for-profit and would be required to pay the Fair Grounds 30% commission on all food sold. Fosbery did feel the Fair Grounds is looking at new and different foods for fair time.

Dykstra moved that Scott find a spot and include the Nutt Hut in the fair this year. Munsinger second the motion

Motion passed.

Thiebert reported to the Fair Commission that the Turf Club has paid \$4563.00 to the fair Grounds this year is stall rent. He thinks the Turf Club is a good renter for the county and they are satisfied with the \$50.00 per month rent charged, he hopes the Fair Commission is satisfied also. Thiebert said with some advertising the Fair Grounds could have over 100 head of race horses training in Kalispell. There needs to be more horses trained if racing is ever to make a come back at county fairs in Montana.

Thiebert told the commission he thinks there needs to be better minutes taken at monthly board meetings. Atkinson told Thiebert that any corrections that needed to be made to the minutes have been made but thanked him for his opinion.

Commission Report:

Munsinger questioned the amount of rent received so far by the race horse trainers. She wanted to know if the stall rent paid, paid for the track work and the removal of the waste from the grounds.

Scott said it is close to a break even for the fair grounds but not quite. Race horse training was use on the fair grounds and a service to some tax payers to be able to use the track. Munsinger thinks this issue needs to be looked at again this fall for next year's rental agreement. She agreed about the use but thinks the fair grounds needs to break even or even make a little money on all rentals, buildings or barns.

Fosbery reported that the word is out that Jim Peterson has sold his interest in KARI Dodge. Fosbery will find out where the Fair Grounds stand on the advertising of the Dodge PRCA rodeo with the new owners.

Fosbery said that most of the advertising for fair time bucking chutes has been sold he only has two left at this time and there is interest in them, he thinks they will be sold this week.

Atkinson and Dykstra had nothing to report on at this time.

Old Business:

Dykstra asked about next years concerts, he would like to start looking now and get the contracts started now instead of waiting. There has been some talk about getting the Oak Ridge Boys back he wanted to know where we stood on that at this time.

Atkinson would like to see a list of who is available to us for next year.

Scott said he has talked with Gary Felstead at this time we do have an offer on the Oak Ridge Boys and should have an answer for the September meeting. If that doesn't happen then Scott will have a list for the commission to go over at the September meeting.

New Business:

Discussion was held on the Fair Parade, it has been decided the Fair Commission will ride on the fire truck provided by Norms News in the parade.

The Fair Commission will meet every day of the fair in the Kitchen building at 7:00A.M. The August meeting will be starting on Tuesday August 18 thru Saturday August 22.

Managers Report:

Scott reported the fair preparation is going a little slow this year compared to the years past, but the grounds will be ready for the fair. Most of the buildings are ready and shavings are ordered, flags are going up and advertising is underway.

Scott reported that the office is going to operate this year with very little over time; he is making a schedule for the office workers for their hours, he has some volunteers to work the inside ticket booths this year.

Scott has asked for the Auditors to come in and do an audit immediately after the fair this year. They are going to get back with him on this issue.

The next Fair Commission meeting will be held August 18, 2009 at 7:00A.M. in the County Kitchen building.

Atkinson move to adjourn the meeting at 7:35

Munsinger second

Chairman

Secretary/Manager